
Maricopa Public Library Appropriate Behavior Policy

PURPOSE

- The Maricopa Public Library under the authority of the Parks, Recreation and Library Committee, may enact regulations that serve to insure the safety of all library staff and patrons, protect the usefulness of the materials collection, and maintain order in the library.
- The PRL Committee is committed to providing an atmosphere where people of all ages come to read, browse, do research, or study. This policy permits quiet conversation between patrons and/or staff members or conversation required to carry on library programs or business. It is designed to preserve a reasonably quiet atmosphere where library patrons may use library services and materials without disturbance.
- Unacceptable behavior includes any activity that disturbs others, interferes with library operations, damages the building or its furnishings, as well as rudeness, profanity, or any other behavior generally considered inappropriate in a public place.
- This policy has been established for all patrons. If a patron is not responsive to the needs of other library users or disregards the policies protecting patrons, staff, and library property, the patron will be asked to leave the library.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS

1. The rights of individuals to use the library should not be abridged or denied. To guarantee these rights for all persons, no library patron shall engage in the following unacceptable behaviors:
 - a. Eat or drink, except as provided for in the library's meeting room policy. Beverages in closed containers permitted (except @ computers).
 - b. Smoke. The library is a smoke-free zone. Smoking is prohibited throughout the facility.
 - c. Willfully annoy another person.
 - d. Damage or deface public property.
 - e. Engage in loud or boisterous behavior.
 - f. Use profane, obscene, or offensive language.
 - g. Be in the Library without shirt, pants or shoes or otherwise unacceptable attire.
 - h. Loiter on the premises.
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- i. Sleep in the library for an extended period of time (more than 15 minutes).
 - j. Bring skateboards into the library.
 - k. Using a cell phone or pager in a way that disturbs others. Audible ringers should be turned off.
 - l. Possessing a weapon (except for an on-duty law enforcement official) or exhibiting any instrument in a threatening manner. A weapon is defined as an instrument used to inflict bodily harm.
 - m. Block entry, aisles or traffic areas.
2. No pets or other animals are allowed in the library unless they are service animals or part of a library program.
3. Only persons on library business will be allowed to solicit for the sale of goods and services in the library. Salespersons may meet with authorized library personnel only. Exceptions may be made for library-sponsored activities and organizations affiliated with the library.
4. Surveying may only be done in conjunction with output measures or other similar surveys designed to quantify library use or satisfaction with library services.
5. Canvassing – for example, soliciting signatures for a petition, nomination papers and the like – is not allowed on library property.
6. It is a charge of the library staff to see that the rights of individuals to use the library are upheld. The staff is obligated to enforce these guidelines so that the facility can be used to the fullest by all persons. Any person who is asked to leave the Library as a result of the violation of these guidelines and refuses to do so shall be considered to be trespassing and may be subject to permanent exclusion from the Library and/or arrest. Questions regarding the interpretation of these guidelines will be referred to the Library Manager or other staff member in charge.